FRANCIS MASSON, A GARDENER-BOTANIST WHO COLLECTED AT THE CAPE

By Mia C. Karsten.

(With Plates VIII—X.)

V. MASSON AS A DRAUGHTSMAN.

STAPELIAE NOVAE.

As already mentioned, Masson had the gift of drawing, which enabled him to paint the plants he found on his peregrinations. The history of Masson's drawings, water-colours, of South African plants, which are now in the British Museum, is given by Britten[133] and runs as follows:—"It was owing to inquiries instituted with regard to Masson's herbarium that the Department of Natural History of the British Museum came into possession of a large number of these drawings which, as far as they go are of almost equal importance with his specimens. A certain number of these drawings were known to have belonged to Banks, and a question as to the whereabouts of these led to the publication of an account of them in Journ. Bot. 1884, pp. 144–8[134]. This led in turn to the presentation to the Department by Mr. Charles Lee, great-grandson of the original James Lee in whose possession they had been[135], of nearly a hundred drawings, the value of which may be gauged by the fact that Mr. J. G. Baker based upon them descriptions of new species of *Gethyllis* and other monocotyledonous genera described in the Journal of Botany in 1885–6. All the drawings are now arranged in one series and form a large folio volume."

To Dr. Forbes, who saw the collection of drawings in the British, Museum, we are indebted for the following details. The size of the volume is 17 x 23 in., and it is about 3 in. thick. On the title-page is inscribed in handwriting: "Collection of Drawings by Francis Masson, Incorporating the series belonging to Sir Joseph Banks (See Jour. Bot. 1884, p. 144) and those presented by Mr. Charles Lee in 1885 (see Jour. Bot. 1885,

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[133] J. Britten, *Some Early Cape Botan. and Coll.*, in Journ. Linn. Soc.—Botany, Vol. xlv (1920–22), pp. 42–43.

[134] This account was written by Britten, under the title *Masson's Drawings of South African Plants*, Journ. of Botany, Vol. XXII, 1884.

[135] Cf. this Journal, Vol. XXV, Oct., 1958, p. 209.

p. 227[136].) Nos. 26 & 40 are by Webber[137], & No. 35 by J. Cleveley jnr."[138]

Apart from these three drawings referred to, not made by MASSON himself, the collection includes another one, which is really No. *40*, and which was later identified as a copy of one of GORDON's drawings.

A loose foolscap index to the drawings is in the volume, the index having a number of notes written in a hand different from that which wrote the index.

Miss EDWARDS of the Botany Department of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) has kindly provided us with the following information *re* the four drawings for which MASSON is not responsible.

The drawing referred to as "No. 26" (= folio 26!), made by WEBBER, shows a different number on its face, viz. *16*. The pictured plant is identified (on drawing) as "Staphelia goodoni Mass.", also stated to be "Masson—Staphelia t. 40." There are not any notes by MASSON on the drawing. We may add to this that "Staphelia t. 40" is a reference to Stapelia Gordoni, Mass. (later renamed *Hoodia gordoni*, Sweet), tab. 40 of *Stapeliae Novae*, to which we will return later. Miss EDWARDS writes that there is another drawing under number 26 (folio 71), picturing an orchid, viz. *Satyrium striatum*[139]. A note on the front of this drawing has been rubbed off. But there is no indication that WEBBER was the artist of it. This drawing No. 26 is a puzzle!

No. 40 (*26*!). This actually is drawing No. *26*, which bears on its front the name "Webber" in DRYANDER's hand. There are no notes on the drawing which represents MASSON's "Stapelia Gordoni", and which WEBBER has copied from GORDON's original painting (see below).

No. *35*. The drawing bears no name, nor notes. There are separate drawings labelled Fig. 1–6. There is a reference to this drawing in another hand which reads:—"Apparently a copy of tab. 2, Kongl. Vet. Akad. Handl. XXXVI, 1775 (date most imp. as more than one series) pp. 69–75. Beskrifning pa en ganska och obekant Svamp, *Hydnora* africana, infran Goda Hoppets Udde i Africa inland af Carl Peter Thunberg."[140] This is a reference to a description and illustration of *Hydnora africana*, Thunb. (Hydnoraceae) by THUNBERG.

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[136] BRITTEN's paper on *Gethyllis*.

[137] JOHN WEBBER (1750?–1793), a landscape painter, was born in London as son of a Swiss sculptor. At an early age he was sent to Berne, where he was instructed by an artist of repute in both portraiture and landscape. He completed his training in Paris. Back in England he became a regular exhibitor at the Royal Academy, of which he became a full member in 1791. In 1776 he exhibited at the Academy a portrait of his brother, which attracted the attention of Dr. SOLANDER, and this led to his appointment as draughtsman to the third and last expedition of Capt. COOK to the South Seas. He returned in 1780, having witnessed the death of COOK, and was then employed for some time by the Admiralty in making finished drawings from his sketches for the illustrations to the account of the expedition, which was published in 1784.

The above biographical records have been taken from *Dictionary of National Biography* (1899).

[138] JOHN CLEVELEY Jnr. (1747–1786) was a marine painter. He learnt the art of water-colour painting and tinted drawings. He first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1770, and up to 1782 his works are always signed "John Cleveley, junior". In 1772 he was chosen to accompany Sir JOSEPH BANKS as draughtsman, on his voyage to the Hebrides, Orkneys, and Iceland. The numerous sketches which he made on his voyage he afterwards worked up into water-colour drawings. Several of them are preserved in the British Museum.

We found the above records in *Dict. Nat. Biogr.* (1887).

[139] *Satyrium striatum*, Thunb.!

No. *40*. Miss EDWARDS writes that this drawing shows another number, 21, pencilled by the side of 40. The only note written on its face is "leaves deep green" (by MASSON? M.K.). MASSON gives no name nor locality. FORBES who saw this drawing, writes that in the index opposite the entry for No. *40* (21), *Pachypodium namaquanum*, is written "Webber, copied from a drawing of Captain Gordon's at the Cape of Good Hope." This is referred to in BRITTEN'S article on MASSON'S drawings of S.A. plants in Journ. of Bot., 1884, p. 145, in text and in footnote, where it is stated that "This copy is identical with a plate (lettered 'Pentandria Monogynia') facing p. 124 of Paterson's *Narrative*, etc. (1789), and the latter was no doubt prepared from Gordon's original drawing." The plant pictured in these two works is *Pachypodium namaquanum*, Welw. (Apocynaceae).

So much for the four drawings made by other artists.

BRITTEN in his paper on MASSON'S drawings, quotes the historical account of these pictures from an article in the Journal of Science and Arts, Vol. iv (1818), p. 199, which is well worth reproducing here in full. It reads:—"Mr. Francis Masson, the late intelligent and industrious collector of plants, while employed in 1775, at the Cape of Good Hope, is procuring supplies for the Kew Gardens, unexpectedly met with, among the Dutch soldiers who then guarded that colony, an artist of great skill as a designer of the objects of natural history. Availing himself of the circumstances, he formed a considerable portfolio of coloured drawings of the samples of the more curious objects of his pursuit, and especially of such as he deemed most refractory to exotic transplantation. They have been since added, by Sir Joseph Banks, to those treasures so long regarded throughout the world, to their possessor's and our country's honour, as the best funds of Science."

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[140] The title of this publication as given by THUNBERG is slightly different from the one quoted here which shows some minor mistakes in the Swedish. The proper title of this paper is: Beskrifning på en ganska besynnerlig och obekant svamp, *Hydnora africana*, ifrån Goda hupps udden. Kongl. Vetenskaps Academiens Handlingar, Stockholm, Vol. 36, tab. II (1775). Transl.: Description of a most peculiar and unknown fungus, *H. afr.*, from the Cape of Good Hope.—See also this Journal, Vol. V, Oct., 1939, pp. 150–1; Vol. XII, Oct., 1946, pp. 170–1.

Hydnora africana is a parasitic fungus-like plant with a fleshy warted subterranean rhizome. The flowers are large, with an unpleasant smell, arising singly from the rhizome. A most remarkable form of plant life!

MacOwan[141], referring to the above notice in the Journal of Science and Arts, suggests that the artist referred to was the Swedish soldier Oldenburg, who was, as may be recalled, Masson's fellow-traveller on his first journey into the interior (1772–3). There are no records of Masson having commissioned Oldenburg to make sketches of the plants collected. Moreover, we have the statement on the title-page of the volume of drawings, that they are, with a few exceptions, Masson's work. We have seen that one drawing, No. 115 (*Massonia latebrosa*, Mass.) is inscribed in his own hand "Masson pinxt." Other ones (e.g. the picture of Lachenalia succulenta, Mass. (*L. patula*, Jacq.)] show the inscription "F. Masson", which may indicate that he himself is the artist. The transcripts of the notes on a number of his drawings, received from the British Museum, all show that the pictures were made of plants collected, and subsequently grown in his little garden at Cape Town, during the time of his second visit to the Cape, viz. long after Oldenburg had left the Cape for Madagascar (1774). Altogether it appears to be most unlikely that the collection includes drawings made by Oldenburg.

There is one thing that may cause doubt as to the identity of the artist: the remarks on the colouring of the picture, found on some of the drawings[142], could have been written with somebody in mind who executed them. But who? Not Col. Gordon who had his drawings finished by somebody else, as we shall see later.

The suggestion that some of the drawings in the British Museum are the work of Johannes Schumacher (or Johan Schoenmaker, the Dutch version[143]), a draughtsman ("tekenaar") employed by Hendrik Swellengrebel, son of the governor, who travelled at the Cape in 1776–7, can, in our opinion, be safely ruled out, the time of his stay being after Masson's first sojourn at the Cape. However, it is thought possible that Schumacher has done some drawing for Col. Gordon, who returned to the Cape in 1777. The drawings Schumacher made on his journey and elsewhere at the Cape, were published in collected form in 1951. Hallema, the editor of this album of reproductions of the Schumacher aquarelles, compares these pictures with those in the

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[141] MacOwan, *Personalia of Botan. Collectors at the Cape*, republ. by Verduyn den Boer in Botanists at the Cape I, p. 42 (1929).

[142] See this Journal, Vol. XXV, Oct., 1959, p. 305.

[143] The information regarding the draughtsman Schumacher has been taken from Forbes' thesis *The Expanding Horizon* (1957). Writing about the authorship of Gordon's drawings, Forbes quotes from A. Hallema, editor, *The Cape in 1776–77. Aquarelles by Johannes Schumacher from the Swellengrebel Collection.* The Hague, 1951; and G. L. le C. Count de Buffon, Histoire Naturelle &c. Suppl., nouvelle édition, Vol. V, p. 58. Amsterdam, 1785.

GORDON collection in the Rijksmuseum at Amsterdam, and remarks that there is an undeniable affinity between the drawings in the two collections in spite of difference of subject. In his discussion of a giraffe shot by GORDON on the last of his journeys into the interior, Professor ALLAMAND (BUFFON, Vol. V, p. 58) mentions "a soldier who served him as a draughtsman". The artist referred to was not unlikely the beforementioned SCHUMACHER. We will return to GORDON's drawings when dealing with MASSON's *Stapeliae Novae.*

We may cite a small selection of MASSON's own drawings, apart from those already mentioned in the chapter on his journeys into the interior, bearing notes which give some indication as to the route followed. Notes which appear in MASSON's own hand are printed in italics. Moreover, these and other information found written down on the drawings have been put between quotation marks, in order to distinguish them from additional notes by Miss EDWARDS and the author of this paper.

ORCHIDACEAE.

No. 41. Bartholinia Burmanniana, Ker (= *B. pectinata*, R. Br.!). On front: "*Orchis* (?) barbata? Nov. 19th."

No. 42. *Corycium orobanchoides*, Sw. On front: note by R. BROWN, "returned April 11, 1820." This is followed by the names, in another hand, "Satyrium pyramidale Corycium obt. .tum" (cannot be properly deciphered!) and several other identifications.

No. 49. *Disa spathulata*, Swartz. On front: "*Roode Zant Octobri 1790. Brouzer* [?] *touched* [?] *round y edges.*" On reverse: "*Rode Zant 1790.*" There is a second drawing, No. 50, which shows a note in R. BROWN's handwriting, "returned April 11, 1820."

No. 51. Disa grandiflora, L. f. (= *D. uniflora*, Berg.!). On front: "*Disa uniflora*", followed by a note that has been erased. This is the beautiful red *Disa* of the Cape.

No. 69. *Pterygodium catholicum*, Swartz. On front: "This is very like the figure of [?] quoted for Ophrys catholica." This is followed by the note "returned April 11, 1820" in R. BROWN's hand, and an identification (by?), "Ophrys cucu . . ta" (cannot be deciphered, cucullata perhaps?).

IRIDACEAE.

No. 40(?). *Moraea tristis*, Ker. The folio bears No. 79, but is numbered 40 on the drawing, which does not show any notes.

No. 77. *Moraea edulis*, Ker. On front: "*Iris edulis*".

No. 83. *Moraea papilionacea,* Ker. On front of 3 drawings: "Moraea papilionacea MS. Iris papilionacea Linn. Suppl. 98."

No. 85. *Moraea pavonia,* Ker. On front: "Moraea pavonia MS. Iris pavonia Linn. Suppl. 98."

AIZOACEAE.

No. 10. Mesembryanthemum digitiforme, Thunb. (M. digitatum, Ait.; *Dactylopsis digitata* (Ait.), N. E. Br.)[144]. On front: "Mesembryanthemum digitiforme MS", according to BRITTEN in SOLANDER's handwriting.

A very peculiar succulent plant, dwarf and pulpy. Its very stout alternate leaves—2 or 3 to each growth—have large tubular sheaths clasping one another closely and concealing the short stem.

No. 11. Mesembryanthemum ciliatum, Ait. (= *Brownanthus ciliatus,* (Ait.) Schwantes). On front: "Mesembryanthemum ciliatum MS." (SOLANDER's handwriting?)

A dwarf, bushy succulent, remarkable for the long deflexed hairs which ciliate the bases of the leaf-sheaths.

GERANIACEAE.

No. 2. *Monsonia speciosa,* L. f. On front: "*Monsonia speciosa γ tripinnata.*"

While checking a specific name in SOLANDER's MSS, Miss EDWARDS found that he gives details of the location of the MASSON plant, viz. "Massonia sp. No. 2 in Swartland, groene kloof et alibi ad Promont. C [B?] Spei. Drakensteen: campis glareosis [barren lands] Floret Sep., Oct."

No. 4. *Monsonia lobata,* Willd. On front: "*Monsonia speciosa γ lobata.*"

ZYGOPHYLLACEAE.

No. 8. *Augea capensis,* Thunb. On front: "*Piotes teretifolia.*"

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[144] There are some notes about this species in BRITTEN's paper on MASSON's drawings (Journ. Bot., 1884, p. 147). BRITTEN points out that this species is said by HARVEY to be "now wanting in Herb. Thunb." From its absence from the Herbarium of the British Museum, and the fact that the description in SOLANDER's MS. was copied from THUNBERG, it is supposed by him that MASSON himself did not preserve dried specimens of it. In a footnote BRITTEN adds to this that it would appear, however, from the "Hortus Kewensis", ii, 181, that MASSON sent living plants to Kew, for its record runs "Cape of Good Hope. Mr. F. Masson. Introd. 1775." At the time this article was written, this species did not seem to have been since met with. As there was no published figure of it, MASSON's drawing, bearing the name "Mesembryanthemum digitiforme MS" in SOLANDER's hand, was considered by BRITTEN to represent the type of the species, which was not in the Kew Herbarium at the time.

This species was named and described by SOLANDER in his MSS as P. teretifolia. It is an annual, glabrous, fleshy herb, with the aspect of a Mesembryanthemum. THUNBERG found it in the Karroo, "between Oliphants River and Bocklandsberg."

RUTACEAE.

No. 6. *Calodendron capense,* Thunb. (= Calodendr*um*!). On front: "*Calodendron capense.*"

EUPHORBIACEAE.

No. 39. *Euphorbia meloformis,* Ait. On front: "*Euphorbia melo formis.*"

ASCLEPIADACEAE.

No. 22. Stapelia ciliata, Thunb. (= *Diplocyatha ciliata,* (Thunb.) N. E. Br.!). See further under *Stapeliae Novae.*

SCROPHULARIACEAE.

No. 31. *Hyobanche sanguinea,* L. On front: "*Hyobanche sanguinea.*"

An annual parasitic plant, short and erect, with scale-like leaves and a very bright purple flower spike. It grows on the roots of *Blaeria muscosa* and other Ericaceae.

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We now come to another set of MASSON'S drawings, viz. a number of pictures, water-colours, of various Stapelieae, published during the time he spent in England after his return from his second period of residence at the Cape, previous to his journey to America. This publication contains 41 reproductions made from a collection of paintings for the greater part made by himself at the Cape, and is greatly to MASSON'S credit. Its complete title is *Stapeliae Novae: or, A Collection of several New Species of that Genus; discovered in the Interior parts of Africa.* The work was published in London, and printed by W. Bulmer & Co. For George Nicol, Bookseller to His Majesty, Pall-Mall. Although dated 1796, the greater part of the work appeared in the course of 1797. In the volume we find a statement that it was published, "as the Act directs", in four parts or numbers, viz. plates 1–10 on April 27, 1796; pl. 11–20 on March 1, 1797; pl. 21–30 on May 20, 1797; and pl. 31–41 on June 20, 1797. However, the last two numbers were actually published only in the second half of the year, as is learnt from a short note in Masson's hand, concerning the distribution of apparently complimentary numbers of *Stapeliae Novae* (Plate VIII), in the Botany Department of the British Museum.

Good Sir

When the two last Number of the Stapeliae are published I have to request the favour of you to receive of Mr. Nicol the following Numbers viz. For His Majesty the two last
Numbers For Her Majesty – – – – – – – Do.
For Sir Josep Banks – – – – – – – – – Do.
For Mr. Forner – – – – – – – – – – – – Do.
For Professor Thunberg three last Do.
For yourself a full Sett.

I am Sir you much obliged
Humble Servant Franc Masson

Gravesend August
29 1797

No name of addressee is given, but the content of the note makes it clear that it was not Banks, who is meant by "For yourself a full Sett". It might well have been Dryander, Banks' librarian.

Mr. Nicol is His Majesty's bookseller mentioned above.

When Masson wrote this little letter from Gravesend, he was about to sail for North America, his last mission[145].

Returning to *Stapeliae Novae*, it is a folio volume of excellent get-up. The coloured plates show craftsmanship, the text is well printed. The volume opens with the following Dedication to the King (George III), which elucidates Masson's achievements as a plant collector, and bears testimony to his profound interest in the work he had undertaken and his keenness to go on with it.

"Sire,

Compelled to leave the Cape of Good Hope, lest I should lose, in an expected invasion, the Collection of living Plants that I had made, during ten years residence there, I returned to England; and was indulged, on my return, with your Majesty's gracious permission to remain a year at home. Unwilling to waste so much time in idleness, I resolved to render this vacation somewhat profitable to the science of Botany, by publishing observations made on that subject, in the interior deserts of Africa.

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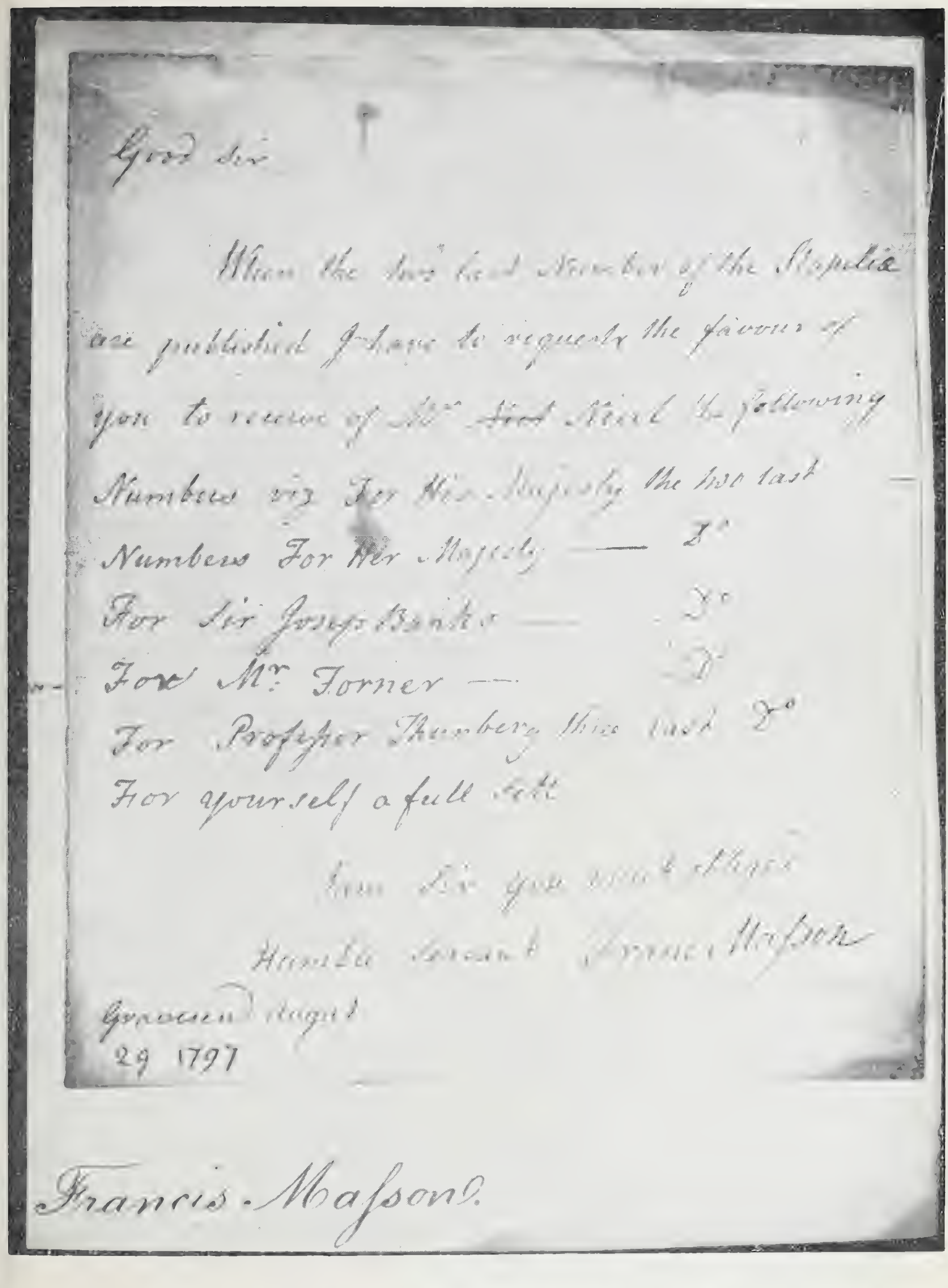
[145] See this Journal, Vol. XXV, Oct., 1959, p. 309.



Good Sir

When the two last Number of the Stapelia are published I have to request the favour of you to receive of Mr ~~[illegible]~~ Nicol the following Numbers viz For His Majesty the two last Numbers For Her Majesty — D°
For Sir Joseph Banks — D°
For Mr Forner — D°
For Professor Thunberg three last D°
For yourself a full sett

I am Sir your most obedt
Humble servant Francis Masson

Gravesend August
29 1797

Francis Maſson.

Plate VIII.

Short note by F. Masson re the sets of Stapeliae Novae. By permission of the British Museum (Natural History).

"Twenty-four years[146] I have enjoyed the honour of being, by your Majesty's command, attached to the Royal Gardens at Kew, as a collector of exotic plants. I have had the satisfaction of seeing several hundreds of those, collected by me in various climates, flourishing there, more beautifully, in some instances, than in their native soils. And I have observed, with the exultation I hope of honest pride, my name frequently repeated in the *Hortus Kewensis*, published by my deceased patron and friend William Aiton.

"Let these circumstances, GRACIOUS SIRE, plead some excuse for the ambition that induced me to solicit the honour of laying my little work at your Majesty's feet.

"Penetrated with gratitude for the uniform protection I have unceasingly received from Your Majesty's bounty—anxious to recommence my employment as a collector, and still enjoying, though in the afternoon of life, a reasonable share of health and vigour, I am now ready to proceed to any part of the globe, to which your Majesty's commands shall direct me. Many are the portions of it that have not yet been fully explored by Botanists—all of them are equal to my choice.—To extend the science of Botany, to enrich the Royal Gardens at Kew, and to obey your Majesty's gracious commands, are the only objects of ambition that actuate the breast of your MAJESTY'S most humble, most dutiful and most grateful Servant, Francis Masson."

With reference to the above, MASSON was to stay another year at home.

The Dedication is followed by a lengthy Preface, of which the following may be quoted here:—

"The tract of land, which forms the Cape of Good Hope, widens gradually as it recedes from the sea; the western coast consists of extensive sandy deserts, incapable of cultivation, and the interior part exhibits ridges of high mountains; between them are other deserts, the soil of which is a reddish earth, intermixed with rotten schistus, impregnated with salt.

"The deserts, called Karro, are furnished with great variety of succulent plants, endowed by nature, as the camel is, with the power of retaining within them water, sufficient to enable them to survive the long periods of drought which prevail in those regions. The climate differs very much from that near the Cape, where the vegetable productions approach more to the nature of Alpine plants.

"This tract of country has afforded more riches for the naturalist than perhaps any other part of the globe. When the Europeans first settled

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[46] Since 1772, when he arrived at the Cape on his first mission as a plant collector.

there, the whole might have been compared to a great park, furnished with a wonderful variety of animals, such as the elephant, the rhinoceros, the hippopotamus, the camelopardalis[147], numerous species of the genus antelope, the lion, the panther[148], hyaena, and many other ferocious animals; but since the country has been inhabited by Europeans, most of these have been destroyed or driven away.

"The ornithology of the Cape is very interesting; incredible numbers of strange sorts of birds, quite unknown to the inhabitants, often migrate from the interior country, and visit the European settlements.

"The vegetable kingdom seems almost inexhaustible, and most of the genera at the Cape are peculiar to the southern parts of Africa; the variety of climates and local situations afforded by the nature of the country, produce such a diversity of species, that the age of man would scarce be sufficient to complete a Flora of it, accompanied with exact figures and scientific descriptions.

"The Dutch, although celebrated as lovers of Natural History and Botany, had possessed the Cape near 130 years before any considerable number of plants from thence were introduced into their European gardens, a few geraniums and succulent plants excepted. Even the zoology of this interesting spot seems to have been very little studied by them.

"The curious productions of the Cape had been too much neglected until the year 1771, when Captain Cook returned from his first voyage round the globe, and landed the Naturalists who accompanied him [BANKS and SOLANDER!] at the Cape Town; they were much gratified by the treasures they met with . . . "

This made BANKS, on his return to England, suggest to the King that a professional gardener should be sent out to the Cape to collect seeds and plants for the Royal Gardens at Kew, and, to use MASSON's own words, " . . . his Majesty was graciously pleased to adopt the plan, though at that time so little approved by the public, that no one but myself chose to undertake the execution of it . . . ." So MASSON left for the Cape and remained there for nearly two years and a half, "during which time I succeeded so well, that my mission has been the cause of several other botanical expeditions of the same kind being undertaken, by order of the Emperor, of the late King of France, and of the King of Spain."[149]

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[147] *Giraffa camelopardalis capensis*, Giraffe, Kameelperd.

[148] Not the Panther, but the Leopard or Luiperd, *Panthera panthera*.

[149] Emperor JOSEPH II of Austria, who sent BOOS and SCHOLL; LOUIS XVI, the ill-fated King of France, and CHARLES IV of Spain. We do not know about collectors ordered to the Cape by the kings of France and Spain.

After this Masson proceeds to his second visit to the Cape, and a full quotation may be given of the remaining part of the Preface. During those ten years at the Cape "I had", quoting Masson, "opportunities more minutely to search that great tract of country; the various collections I have sent from thence to Kew Gardens have been cultivated with so much success, that all praise of the cultivators is useless, for the garden itself sufficiently demonstrates the care and skill with which Cape plants have been treated in that excellent school of horticulture.

"Some Cape genera consist of numerous species, viz. Geranium Erica and Mesembryanthemum: very elegant works have been published giving account of the Gerania[150]; but the history of the Mesembryanthema is very deficient, and the deserts contain still many species unknown to Botanists.

"Two species only of Stapelia were heretofore described by Botanists[151]; the genus now promises a numerous harvest of species. In my various journeys through the deserts I have collected about forty, and these I humbly present to the lovers of Botany. The figures were drawn in their native climate, and though they have little boast in point of art, they possibly exhibit the natural appearance of the plants they represent, better than figures made from subjects growing in exotic houses can do.

"The genus of Stapelia seems peculiar to deserts. All the new species I have seen inhabit the desert parts of the Cape countries. The particular places where they are found are annexed to the specific descriptions of each.

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[150] Masson could be referring here to N. L. Burman's work *Specimen botanicum de geraniis*. Lugd.-Bat., 1759, 4, 52 pp., 2 plates (12 figs.). There is also L'Héritier's folio, *Geraniologia, seu Erodii, Pelargonii, Geranii, Monsoniae et Grieli historia iconibus illustrata*. Paris, 1787–8, with 44 plates. The text was never published. A. J. Cavanilles in his *Dissertatio Botanica*, Paris, 1787, part 4, published 128 species with plates—"de Geranio"—; many of these species are from the Cape and were collected by Thunberg and others. The latter two works in particular, containing so many illustrations, could have been styled as "elegant".

[151] Masson probably refers here to *Stapelia variegata* and *S. hirsuta*, both named and described by Linnaeus in his *Species Plantarum*, first edition, p. 217 (1753), after they had been described and figured in earlier works, by Hermann, Bradley, Jan Burman, before the introduction of the binominal system in Linnaeus' *Sp. Plant.*

Stapelia variegata was the first species of this genus of plants to be discovered. It was originally described and figured as "Fritillaria crassa promontorii bonae spei", by Johannes Bodaeus Stapelius (or van Stapel), a Dutch physician, in his edition of Theophrastus: *De Historia Plantarum, libri decem*. Amsterdam, 1644. Stapelius having died in 1636, the work was brought out by his father Egbert Bodaeus. The "Fritillaria" figure in Stapelius' work is reproduced on p. 74 of Vol. I of White & Sloane, *The Stapelieae*. James Britten says there is a superficial resemblance between the appearance of the flower of *S. variegata* and that of *Fritillaria meleagris*, hence the name given by the early author.

"Several authors have written on this genus. Among the first are Hermannus[152], Bradley[153], &c. who wrote early in this century.

"Forskâl[154], in his journey in Arabia Felix, discovered five new species, and has given good figures of two of them. Thunberg, in his Prodromus[155], mentions five species, three of them I cannot determine, viz. S. mammillaris, S. fasciculata, S. caudata, because his descriptions are so short; probably in his Flora Capensis[156] they will be more fully defined. I shall be glad to quote them as soon as it is in my power to ascertain them.

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[152] In Hermann's *Horti Academici Lugduni-Batavi Catalogus*, etc., Leyden (1687), there is a description on p. 52 of *Stapelia variegata*, L., together with a plate (p. 53): "Apocynum humile aizoides siliquis erectis Africanum. Fritillaria crassa Prom. Bon. Spei. Stapel Theophr. 335." In his *Paradisus Batavus*, etc. (1698), the same description is given on p. 62, without the plate.

[153] This is Richard Bradley, professor of botany at the University of Cambridge, who wrote the first work devoted wholly to succulents: *The History of Succulent Plants* (Historia plantarum succulentarum), in 5 vols. London, 1716–27. He figures two Stapelias, viz. *S. variegata* and *S. hirsuta* (decade III, 1725, tab. 3 and 5).

[154] Petrus Forsskål (1732–1763), outstanding pupil of Linnaeus, who died of the plague in Yemen (S. Arabia), while a member of an expedition sent out at the expense of King Frederick V of Denmark. The expedition, to Egypt, Arabia and India, was headed by Karsten Niebuhr, a German traveller, who ultimately reached Bombay as the sole survivor, and eventually got back to Copenhagen in 1767. Forsskål's works were published posthumously by Niebuhr, in a series of books, including the *Flora Aegyptiaco-Arabica* (1775) and *Icones Rerum Naturalium* (1776). The descriptions he gives of the five Stapelieae he collected, were fragmentary, and only two, now known as *Caralluma quadrangula*, N. E. Br. (Stapelia quadrangula, Forssk., Flora Aeg.-Arab., p. 108, 1775) and *Caralluma subulata*, Decaisne (S. subulata, Forssk., Flora Aeg.-Arab., p. 108, 1775, figured in Icon. Rerum Nat., 1776), have been satisfactorily identified (see White & Sloane, *The Stapelieae*, Vol. I (1937), pp. 252 and 176 respectively.

The above notes on Forsskål have been taken from A. Hj. Uggla's paper *Daniel Solander och Linné*, in Svenska Linné—Sällskapets Årsskrift, Årgang XXXVII–XXXVIII, 1954–1955, p. 33, footnote 5 (reprint); and White & Sloane, *The Stap.*, Vol. I, pp. 78–79.

[155] *Prodromus Plantarum Capensium*, first part (1794), see also footnote 114.

Two of the three inadequately described species mentioned by Masson were later on identified and classified with other genera, viz. Stapelia mammillaris (Linnaeus, Mantissa Plantarum, ii, p. 216, 1771), now known as *Caralluma mammillaris*, N. E. Br., and S. caudata, Thunb., which was later on classified as a species of *Brachystelma*, R. Br.—a genus belonging to another tribe of Asclepiadaceae—under the name *B. crispum*, Grah. The latter is a native of the western part of the Cape (neighbourhood of Cape Town; Malmesbury Div.). The gen. *Brachystelma* numbers about 60 species, viz. 40 in S. Africa, and the remaining 20 equally divided between trop. Africa and India.

The third, S. fasciculata, is an unidentified species discovered and named by Thunberg.

[156] *Flora Capensis*, sistens Plantas Promontorii Bonae Spei Africes, etc., Vol. I, fascicula 1, 2 and 3, publ. in 1807, 1811 and 1813 respectively (Upsaliae); Vol. II, fasc. 1 and 2, publ. in 1818 and 1820 (Hafniae); and the only complete edition, edited by I. A. Schultes, publ. in 1823 (Stuttgardtiae).

The following eight "Stapeliae" are described by Thunberg in his *Flora Cap.:* S. pilifera, L. f. (*Trichocaulon piliferum*, N. E. Br.); S. mammillaris, L. (*Caralluma mammillaris*, N. E. Br.); S. incarnata, L. f. (*Caralluma incarnata*, N. E. Br.); *S. hirsuta*, L.; S. ciliata, Thunb. (*Diplocyatha ciliata*, N. E. Br.); S. fasciculata, Thunb, (undetermined sp.); *S. variegata*, L.; and S. caudata, Thunb. (*Brachystelma crispum.* Grah.). Three of these are described and pictured in Masson's *Stapeliae Novae*, viz. S. pilifera, incarnata and ciliata.

"Colonel Gordon and Captain Paterson discovered some very remarkable species; but these are very obscure, for want of complete figures and descriptions.[157]

"In the splendid work on East India plants[158], now publishing at the expence of the Honourable East India Company, one new species is given.

"As so many species of this genus have been found in the southern parts of Africa, in Arabia Felix, and in India, presumptive proof may be drawn that many remain yet undiscovered; I am certain that the Cape countries contain several that I have not had an opportunity of procuring.

"As no one but myself possesses the figures contained in this little work, I have thought it my duty to present them to the public, in hopes that they may prove acceptable, both to the Botanist and cultivator of plants. Generic and specific descriptions are given, and some useful hints annexed to the description of each species."

The descriptions of the plants, particulars about their habitat, and various other information are all in Latin. Many of the drawings were made of plants collected by him which he had planted in his little garden at the Cape, where they were flowering. "*Florebat* in hortulo meo in Cap. b. Spei", often followed by the year, occasionally also the month, when the plant was flowering, is a remark we find under nearly half of the descriptions. Nothing is known about the site of MASSON's garden at Cape Town.

Masson made no effort to subdivide the genus *Stapelia*, but, quoting WHITE & SLOANE[159], "he was a botanist of much acuteness and the sequence of his descriptions shows that he sensed many of the distinctions which later men [ROBERT BROWN, A. H. HAWORTH, N. E. BROWN !] were to put into words." For instance, he had 6 *Huernias*, as now understood, and grouped them together. Also his 3 *Duvalias* and 3 *Piaranthus* he grouped together, while of the 18 *Stapelias*, in the restricted modern sense, he placed 15 together. The remainder of the 41 species include

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[157] It is difficult to say to what species MASSON is referring here, but they most likely include the curious "Stapelia" sp., which PATERSON discovered in Little Bushmanland in 1778 or 1779, and of which he figured a fruiting stem in his *Narrative*, etc. (1789); there is a reproduction of this figure in WHITE & SLOANE, *The Stapelieae*, Vol. I (1937), p. 1. This plant was later on described by W. J. HOOKER as Stapelia cactiformis (1844), but is now known as *Trichocaulon cactiforme*, N. E. Br.

MASSON might also have had in mind the peculiar Stapelia Gordoni, Mass. (*Hoodia gordoni*, Sweet), discovered by Col. GORDON.

[158] W. ROXBURGH, *Plants of the Coast of Coromandel*, selected from drawings and descriptions presented to the Hon. Court of Directors of the East India Company. Published by their order, and printed by W. Bulmer for George Nicol, bookseller. London, 1795–1819; 3 vols. Vol. I (1795) contains 68 pp. and 100 coloured plates. Stapelia adscendens. Rox. t. 30, p. 28 of Vol. I = *Caralluma adscendens*, R. Br. is probably the "Stapelia" referred to by MASSON.

[159] WHITE & SLOANE, *The Stapelieae*, Vol. I (1937), p. 85.

1 *Diplocyatha* (the only known species), 1 *Trichocaulon,* 1 *Pectinaria,* 7 *Carallumas,* and 1 *Hoodia.*

Four of the species depicted were known to THUNBERG, three of them having been discovered by this botanist. The fourth one, known to both THUNBERG and MASSON, was discovered by a much earlier collector, and was figured in JAN BURMAN'S *Decades Africanarum Plantarum,* 1738 (see below). Among the remaining 37 species there is another one of that early period, also figured in BURMAN'S work. Finally there is a drawing of a species discovered by Col. GORDON. This leaves altogether 35 species, all "nondescripts", discovered and named by MASSON. Eight of these are lost plants, not having been rediscovered since his day.

We will now give an enumeration of the 41 species of Stapelieae as introduced by MASSON in this volume, with the names under which they are known nowadays between brackets. Of each species the habitat as given by MASSON will be quoted, though of 15 species no precise localities are mentioned (merely "In Africa Australi" (S. A.), sometimes with the statement that the pictured species was found in dry regions—occasionally the "Karro" is referred to—added to it). As far as the species have been rediscovered, the districts where they were found by later collectors will be mentioned[160]. Of most of the species MASSON gives the year they were flowering in his garden at the Cape, and not when they were found (which is difficult to guess). Of two species only he informs us in which year they were collected. MASSON'S lost Stapelieae are marked with an asterisk.

1. Stapelia ciliata, Thunb. (*Diplocyatha ciliata,* N. E. Br.). This species was discovered by THUNBERG in very arid regions, Karroo, between the Roggeveld and Paardeberg (*Flor. Cap.* (1823), p. 240), which is in the Ceres district. MASSON, who accompanied THUNBERG on the journey to the Roggeveld (Sept.–Dec., 1774) found it in very dry places below the "Boekland" (Bokkeland!) Berg, and both give as the flowering season November and December. His remark "in loco natali delineata 1774", drawn in its native habitat, we find added to none of the other descriptions, and as this eliminates any doubt that MASSON himself was the artist, we have chosen this first illustration in *Stapeliae Novae* to be reproduced herewith (Plate IX). The original drawing, as mentioned before, is in the British Museum. The "fringed Diplocyatha" is now also known from the Calvinia, Beaufort West, Prince Albert, and Ladismith districts of the Cape. *Diplocyatha,* N. E. Br., is a monotypic genus.

2. Stapelia reticulata, Mass. (*Huernia reticulata,* Haw.), a plant discovered by MASSON in small cavities of rock towards North Olifants River (= Clanwilliam district). He writes that it flowers in the spring

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[160] For precise localities see WHITE & SLOANE, *The Stapelieae* (1937).

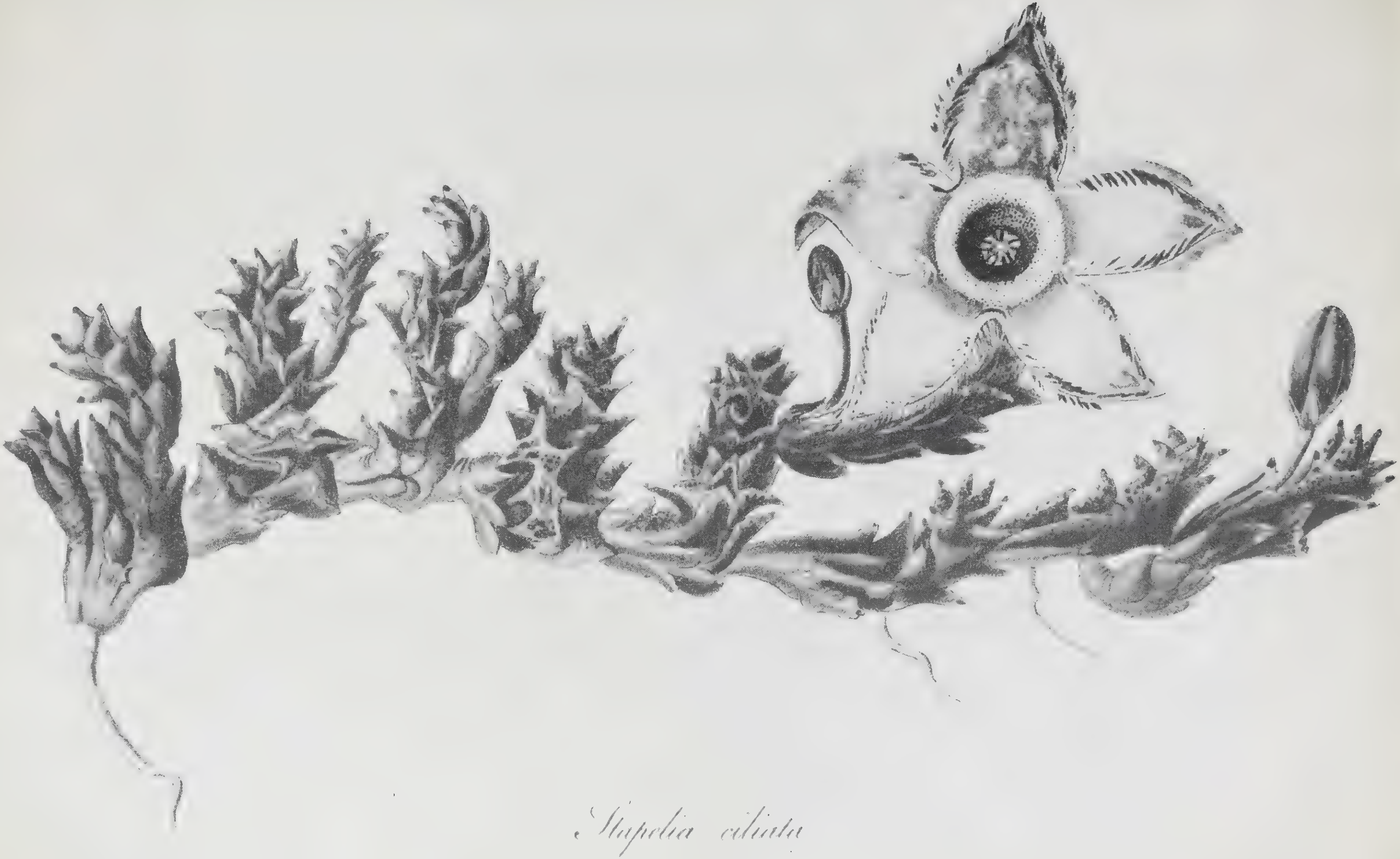

Plate IX. *Diplocyatha ciliata*, N. E. Br. (Stapelia ciliata, Thunb.).
From an illustration (Plate I) in Francis Masson, *Stapeliae Novae* (1796).

and in the autumn. By later collectors also found in the Van Rhynsdorp district.

3. *Stapelia venusta, Mass. (*Huernia venusta*, R. Br.): discovered by MASSON in arid regions, viz. the Karroo. This *Huernia* is only known from MASSON's picture in *Stapeliae Novae*, and has not been found again.

4. Stapelia guttata, Mass. (*Huernia guttata*, R. Br.): discovered by MASSON in dry places, but no precise locality is given. The "speckled Huernia" was lost to cultivation for a century and a quarter, and was rediscovered by the late Dr. G. C. NEL. It is now known from various localities, viz. in Bushmanland, the Clanwilliam and Van Rhynsdorp districts, while it is also found between Willowmore and Port Elizabeth, and in S.W. Africa.

5. Stapelia humilis, Mass. (*Huernia humilis*, Haw.). As to its habitat, MASSON, who discovered it, says it grows in dry places. It was later found in the Beaufort West and De Aar districts.

6. Stapelia campanulata, Mass. (*Huernia campanulata*, R. Br.): discovered by MASSON, who, writing about the habitat of this species, only mentions that it grows in dry places. There is little doubt that the Great Karroo was referred to, as it was later found in the Prince Albert district. Further it is widespread in the Ladismith and Oudtshoorn districts.

7. Stapelia barbata, Mass. (*Huernia barbata*, Haw.). MASSON, who discovered the species, does not give a locality. It was found by later collectors in many places in the Cape Province, i.e. in the Aliwal North, Lady Grey, Prince Albert, Somerset East, Ladismith, Uitenhage, Willowmore, and Albany districts. It is also known from Fauresmith in the Free State. A widely distributed species! The pictured plant flowered in MASSON's garden at the Cape in March, 1794. As to its specific name, we may quote WHITE & SLOANE[161]:—"Francis Masson was often very happy in his choice of names for his Stapeliads. His designation of the present species . . . the 'bearded Stapelia' . . . , is a typical instance of his careful sense for nomenclature. Once the flower has been seen (with its papillate inner corolla surface, and the papillae tipped with long clavate purple hairs from below mid-tube to the base or even the middle of the lobes), the name *H. barbata* will never be applied by the collector to any other plant."

8. *Stapelia verrucosa*, Mass.: discovered by MASSON, who writes that its habitat is in dry places. No precise locality is given. He further informs us that it flowers in September and October. This is a known species, but MASSON's original type has never been rediscovered. There are several varieties, widely distributed at the Cape, from Grahamstown to Griqualand West. One of the best known members of the genus!

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[161] WHITE & SLOANE, *The Stapelieae*, Vol. III (1937), p. 952.

9. **Stapelia irrorata*, Mass. Masson, who discovered the species, says that it is found in dry places, and flowers in September and October. He does not mention the precise locality. This is another of the vanished species.

10. *Stapelia revoluta*, Mass. Masson discovered this species in dry veld under shrubs in the Karroo beyond North Olifants River (these are the western karroid areas in the Clanwilliam district). As stated by him, it flowers in September and October. This species was later also found in the Van Rhynsdorp district.

11. *Stapelia grandiflora*, Mass. Masson discovered this species, one of the most striking Stapelias we owe to him, in warm places near the Sundays River. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792. Apart from Masson's locality, which is in the Uitenhage district, it is known from many other places, i.e. near Alexandria, Bathurst, Port Elizabeth, Somerset East in the Eastern Cape; the Prince Albert district, and also the Lydenburg district in the Transvaal. Also found in Swaziland.

12. *Stapelia ambigua*, Mass. Masson, who discovered this plant, says that its habitat is in arid deserts, and that it flowered in his garden at the Cape in March, 1794. It was later found in the Victoria West and Uitenhage districts of the Cape.

13. *Stapelia pulvinata*, Mass. This species was discovered by Masson on the Kamiesberg (= Little Namaqualand), amongst shrubs. He says that it is called by the inhabitants "Arabisch Rose" (Arabian R.), and that it flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792. It was found by later collectors at other points in Little Namaqualand, including Springbok.

14. **Stapelia asterias*, Mass. This species was discovered by Masson in the Karroo, but no precise locality is given. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792. This is another of the vanished species.

15. *Stapelia gemmiflora*, Mass.: discovered by Masson in arid places amongst bushes beyond Plattekloof (= Riversdale district). It flowered in Kew Gardens in October, 1796. The "gemflowered Stapelia" was found by later collectors, and it proved to be widely distributed in the Cape Province, incl. Swellendam, Laingsburg, Riversdale, Willowmore, Uniondale, Ladismith, Prince Albert, Steynsburg, Graaff-Reinet, Middelburg, De Aar, and Aliwal North districts. It has also been collected in the Free State (Fauresmith district).

16. **Stapelia vetula*, Mass. This species was discovered by Masson in the mountains near Hex River (= Worcester district), but was never found again.

17. **Stapelia acuminata*, Mass. Masson discovered this species in Namaqualand (= Little N.), but he does not give the precise locality.

The water-colour must have been made of a plant flowering in his garden at the Cape in 1791. This too is one of MASSON's lost plants.

18. *Stapelia concinna*, Mass. This is one of the long-lost plants of MASSON, who first collected it in dry places in the Karroo, but did not give the precise locality. He says that it flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1794. A variety of this species, *S. concinna* var. *paniculata*, N. E. Br., was rediscovered about 1930, growing on shales, near the bank of the Doorn River, about 50 miles north-west of Calvinia.

19. *Stapelia glanduliflora*, Mass.: discovered by MASSON in deserts near North Olifants River (= Clanwilliam district). It flowered in Kew Gardens in October, 1796. This *Stapelia* was later found also in the Van Rhynsdorp district (near Klaver). It is a native of the dry areas near the west coast of the Cape Province, 100 miles or more above Cape Town.

20. *Stapelia rufa*, Mass.: discovered by MASSON in warm places beyond Plattekloof (= Riversdale district). It was later found in many more places, i.e. in the Little Karroo, north of Garcia's Pass (Riversdale district), and also in the Laingsburg (near Matjesfontein), Prince Albert, and Ladismith districts. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1793.

21. *Stapelia pedunculata*, Mass. This species, characterized by very long pedicels (hence the name), was discovered by MASSON in arid regions near the Kamiesberg (= Little Namaqualand). It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792. It was later collected also near O'okiep and in the Richtersveld (Little N.).

22. *Stapelia divaricata*, Mass. MASSON, who discovered the species, does not say anything about the locality. He only mentions that it flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792. Later collectors found it in the Swellendam district.

23. Stapelia pilifera, L. f. (*Trichocaulon piliferum*, N. E. Br.). This species was discovered by THUNBERG in 1773, who writes that it grows in the Karroo at the other side of "Hartequas" (Attaquas!) Kloof, and below the Roggeveld (*Flora Cap.* (1823), p. 239). This is the Little Karroo, inland from Mossel Bay (Oudtshoorn district). MASSON, who was THUNBERG's fellow-traveller on this journey into the interior, writes that its habitat is in the deserts of S. Africa, on very dry hills, under shrubs, and in the Karroo below the Roggeveld Mountains. It is stated by THUNBERG that this species flowers in August and September. MASSON n his work says that the plant flowered in his garden at the Cape, but he does not give the year. *T. piliferum* is fairly frequent still at numerous points in the southern karroid areas. It is known from the Prince Albert, Calvinia, Sutherland, Riversdale, Ladismith, Swellendam, Willowmore districts. It has been also found in Great Namaqualand (S.W. Africa).

The "hair-bearing Trichocaulon" was the first species of the genus to be discovered, but the genus itself was not established until more than a century later. Masson writes that it is used as a medicine by the Hottentots, by whom it is called "guaap" (also spelt "gaap" and "ngaap").

24. Stapelia punctata, Mass. (*Piaranthus punctatus*, R. Br.). Masson, who discovered the plant, mentions as its habitat Namaqualand (= Little N.). It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1790, so it was presumably collected on his journey to the Kamiesberg in 1789. The "dotted Piaranthus" was later found also in the Laingsburg and Van Rhynsdorp districts.

25. Stapelia geminata, Mass. (*Piaranthus geminatus*, N. E. Br.). Masson discovered this species in hot regions of S. Africa under shrubs, but no precise locality is given. It was later rediscovered in the Jansenville district of the Cape Province. The pictured plant flowered in his garden at the Cape in February, 1794.

26. Stapelia decora, Mass. (*Piaranthus decorus*, N. E. Br.). Masson, who discovered this plant, just mentions S. Africa as its habitat. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1794. After having been lost for a long time, the species was rediscovered in the Swellendam, Oudtshoorn and Ladismith districts.

27. Stapelia elegans, Mass. (*Duvalia elegans*, Haw.): discovered by Masson in the Karroo; no precise locality is given. It flowered in his garden at the Cape. Later collectors found this species in the Robertson, Port Elizabeth, and Oudtshoorn districts.

28. Stapelia reclinata, Mass. (*Duvalia reclinata*, Haw.). Masson, who discovered the species, only says that its habitat is in S. Africa, and that it flowered in his garden at the Cape. It was later found in various places, i.e. in the Graaff-Reinet, Aberdeen, Uitenhage, Jansenville, Cradock, and Willowmore districts of the Cape.

29. Stapelia caespitosa, Mass. (*Duvalia caespitosa*, Haw.): discovered by Masson who found it growing in Karroo regions, under bushes. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1793. It is known to have been rediscovered near Port Elizabeth, and it is supposed also to grow in the Victoria West district.

30. Stapelia articulata, Ait. (*Pectinaria articulata*, Haw.). This species was discovered by Thunberg near the Roggeveld mountains at the end of November, 1774[162]. Masson, who was his fellow-traveller on this journey, writes about this species that its habitat is in the Roggeveld, and that its stems preserved with vinegar are used as a medicine by the

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[162] Thunberg introduced this plant under the name "Stapelia articulata repens" (*Travels*, etc., Vol. II of 3rd ed., p. 171 (1796). See also this Journal, Vol. V, Oct., 1939, p. 151.

"Novaccolis" (colonists), and also, but untreated (raw), by the Hottentots. The distribution is not further known.

31. Stapelia pulla, Ait. (*Caralluma mammillaris*, (L.) N. E. Br.). This is one of the very early Stapelieae in cultivation. J. Burman has a drawing of it in his *Decades*, etc. (1738). Masson found the plant in warm, dry places in the Karroo, but he does not mention the precise locality. It was later collected in many places in the Cape Province, viz. in the Oudtshoorn, Prince Albert, Laingsburg, Worcester, Ceres, Clanwilliam, and Van Rhynsdorp districts. It is also known from Little Namaqualand, including the Richtersveld. Masson informs us that the specimen(s) he had collected, flowered in March, during the voyage from the Cape to St. Helena. This must have been in 1795 on his way back to England.

32. Stapelia ramosa, Mass. (*Caralluma ramosa*, N. E. Br.). Masson discovered this plant in Karroo regions beyond Plattekloof (= Riversdale district), "around the hot springs". It flowered in his garden at the Cape in August, 1792. It was found by later collectors at many points in the Swellendam, Riversdale, Laingsburg, Ladismith, and Prince Albert districts. The species is quite common in the southern Karroo, growing on the shales among other succulents from 1,000 to 1,400 feet altitude.

33. *Stapelia arida, Mass. (*Caralluma arida*, N. E. Br.): discovered by Masson "in dry deserts in Kanna Land", by which he meant the south-western part of the Little Karroo (Riversdale or Ladismith district). This species has not been rediscovered since his day.

34. Stapelia incarnata, L. f. (*Caralluma incarnata*, N. E. Br.). This is one of the first Stapelieae to become known in Europe. It was figured in J. Burman's *Decades*, etc. (1738) and was known to both Thunberg and Masson. The former informs us (*Flora Cap.* (1823), p. 240) that it grows at Saldanha Bay, in the mountains near "Compagnies Post" (which is in the Malmesbury district), and also near Verloren Valley (= Piquetberg district). Further it is stated by him that it flowers in August and the following months. Masson found this species in "dry and arid veld", but does not give the locality. It was later also collected in the Ceres district, Little Namaqualand (Richtersveld).

35. *Stapelia parviflora, Mass. (*Caralluma parviflora*, N. E. Br.). Masson discovered this species in regions of Namaqualand (= Little N.), growing under shrubs. It flowered in his garden at the Cape, and is one of the eight species first collected by him, which have remained unrediscovered since his day.

36. *Stapelia pulchella*, Mass.: discovered by Masson, who does not mention any localities. It flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1793.

Later collectors found it in the Uitenhage, Port Elizabeth, Humansdorp, and Alexandria districts in the Eastern Cape.

37. Stapelia aperta, Mass. (*Caralluma aperta*, N. E. Br.). This species was discovered by MASSON in Little Namaqualand near "Kok Fontein" (Kokfontein, south of the Zwart Lintjes River). It is now known from various places in Little Namaqualand, i.e. Springbok and the Richtersveld.

38. Stapelia mixta, Mass. (*S. variegata* var. *mixta* (Mass.) N. E. Br.). MASSON, who discovered the species, only says that it is found in S. Africa. It was rediscovered in the Robertson district of the Cape Province. MASSON informs us that the plant flowered in Kew Gardens in 1796. His painting must have been made from that specimen.

39. **Stapelia sororia*, Mass. This is the last of MASSON's lost Stapelieae. He only states that S. Africa is its habitat, and that it flowered in his garden at the Cape in 1792, and at Kew in June, 1797.

40. Stapelia Gordoni, Mass. (*Hoodia gordoni*, Sweet). From MASSON's notes on this species we may quote here in English translation:—"This unique species of Stapelia I have neither seen nor examined. For the [original] copy from which the picture has been made, I have to thank the favour of Mr. Gordon. I have considered [its] place in this collection to be worth an engraving, since it leads to further investigations of the species of this remarkable genus, which I believe to be indeed numerous".

"Gordon's Hoodia", the type species in this genus, was discovered by Col. GORDON, probably in the year 1779, in the Great Namaqualand country (S.W. Africa) on the north side of the Orange River. Now it is known from various localities in S.W.A.; from Little Namaqualand (i.e. near Henkries, 12 miles south of the Orange R.), the Prieska and Griqualand West districts, etc.

In the 2nd edition of his *Hortus Britannicus* (1830), ROBERT SWEET transferred the species to the new genus *Hoodia*, Sweet.

41. Stapelia pruinosa, Mass. (*Caralluma pruinosa*, N. E. Br.). This plant was first collected by MASSON in dry regions, under shrubs, in Namaqualand (= Little N.), but no precise locality is given. He writes about this plant (transl.):—"This beautiful little species flowered in Kew Garden in June, 1797, after the last number of my little work had been sent to press, and I thought botanists would be pleased to have me figure the species, whose flower I never saw while I was in Africa." It was later rediscovered in other places in Little Namaqualand.

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There is very little doubt that MASSON was the artist of most of the drawings from which the plates in *Stapeliae Novae* were made. As mentioned before, Col. GORDON too, whom MASSON met at the Cape, was a skilled draughtsman. JAMES BRITTEN in an article on GORDON[163] writes that in the sale of the STAFFORD Library at SOTHEBY'S, London, in November, 1913, there were included a collection of 400 water-colour drawings made by GORDON in South Africa from 1777 to 1790. These include pictures of natives, quadrupeds, birds, reptiles and plants as well as plans and views of the district round the Cape and the Orange River. According to BRITTEN, the drawings are evidently extremely accurate. A number of these are furnished by GORDON with descriptions in Dutch[164]. The early history of GORDON'S collection of papers and drawings is given in a letter to Sir JOSEPH BANKS, dated May 27, 1797, from PHILIP GIDLEY KING (1758–1808), who at the time of writing was Lt.-Governor of Norfolk Island, but was then in London. BRITTEN gives a full transcript of this letter, of which the following is of special interest:— "The second Box contains a very full and large Book, in which are arranged upwards of 400 drawings of Natural History, appropriate to the Charts and Views. The Charts and Natural History Mrs. Gordon informs me were all designed by her own husband, who drew every outline, and had them finished under his own eye". Who was the man employed by GORDON, who did the colouring, shading, etc. of the drawings? It does not seem likely that it was SCHUMACHER (see p. 18) who finished some of GORDON'S drawings, though he could have done so in 1777. We have not any record of GORDON having met SCHUMACHER. PATERSON in his *Narrative of Four Journeys*, etc. (1789) tells us that "a draughtsman of Captain Gordon's, who was in the wagon, had his thigh bruised", a remark which makes Mrs. GORDON'S statement regarding the execution of her husband's drawings the more credible. PATERSON can be ruled out forthwith as another possibility. As pointed out by DYER[165], there is ample evidence that PATERSON was indebted to GORDON for the greater part of the illustrations in his *Narrative*. DYER in his paper refers to several plates in PATERSON'S work and some paintings in PATERSON'S *Collection of Drawings ex Libris Oppenheimer*, Johannesburg, which are matched in the GORDON collection, and he gives reproductions of both GORDON'S and PATERSON'S originals. For instance, the original drawings of PATERSON'S illustrations of the peculiar *Pachypodium namaquanum*, Welw. (one of the "Pentandria monogynia"); the inflorescence of *Aloe dichotoma*, Mass.; and *Sarcocaulon burmanii*, Sweet ("Geranium spinosum") are all in GORDON's collection. DYER definitely does not fall in with MUIR's high opinion of PATERSON as an artist (see footnote 90!), though it should not be ruled out altogether that he was a draughtsman: the illustrations of landscapes and buildings in his *Narrative* might have been his own work.

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[163] J. BRITTEN, *Robert Jacob Gordon*, Journ. of Bot., Vol. LII, 1914, p. 75.

[164] We may recall that GORDON was born in Holland, where he was in active service previous to his first visit to the Cape in 1773 (see footnote 92).

[165] R. A. DYER, *Col. R. J. Gordon's Contrib. to S.A. Bot.*, Repr. from S.A. Biol. Soc. Pamphlet No. 14, 1949.

The GORDON collection put up for sale at SOTHEBY's was purchased by Messrs. MAGGS BROS. for £690, and then offered for sale at almost double the price, viz. £1,250. The collection, including over 100 paintings of South African plants, was bought by a committee in Holland, and is housed in the Rijksmuseum at Amsterdam.

We were so fortunate as to obtain photographic copies of all Stapelieae paintings in the GORDON collection. We found that nine of the species drawn by GORDON are represented in MASSON's *Stapeliae Novae*, viz. *Huernia campanulata* and *barbata; Stapelia irrorata*, *pulvinata*, *gemmiflora*, *pedunculata* and *pulchella; Pectinaria articulata*, and *Hoodia gordoni*. Another of GORDON's drawings is of a *Stapelia* sp., which, according to WHITE & SLOANE, may be identical with *S. glandulifera*, a species depicted by MASSON. All but two of these drawings are different from MASSON's. These two match exactly with Plates 13 and 40, viz. of *Stapelia pulvinata*, and "Stapelia Gordoni" (*Hoodia gordoni*), in *Stapeliae Novae*. In the GORDON collection there is a second painting of *S. pulvinata*, almost identical, which GORDON may have prepared or had prepared to give away. We have already seen that MASSON himself says that the illustration of "S. Gordoni" was made from a painting he received from GORDON. A comparison of Plate 40 with the photograph of the original does not leave the slightest doubt about this. The picture shows the inscription "Stapeelia" (Dutch spelling!) in GORDON's hand.

In the GORDON collection there are two nearly identical paintings of *Pectinaria articulata*, quite different from Plate 30 in MASSON's volume. One of them shows a description in Dutch, written down by GORDON. After having given the name of the plant figured as "Stapelia nigrum", he writes:—"[?] aap. een vrugt uit de caro. eetbaar. Sappig" (transl.: [?] aap (we cannot decipher the initial, but the word meant obviously is ngaap or gaap, the Hottentot name for this fruit), a fruit from the Karroo, edible, juicy).

As counterpart of a reproduction of one of MASSON's *Massonia* drawings, viz. of *M. pustulata*, Jacq., we may now present the only *Massonia* painting in the GORDON collection (Plate X). This interesting drawing is inscribed with the name "Massonia Latifolia". According to DYER, to whom we are indebted for a photograph of this drawing, it is quite likely that GORDON's drawing illustrates the type of *M. latifolia*, L. f. (the very first species of the genus discovered), though he cannot give absolute

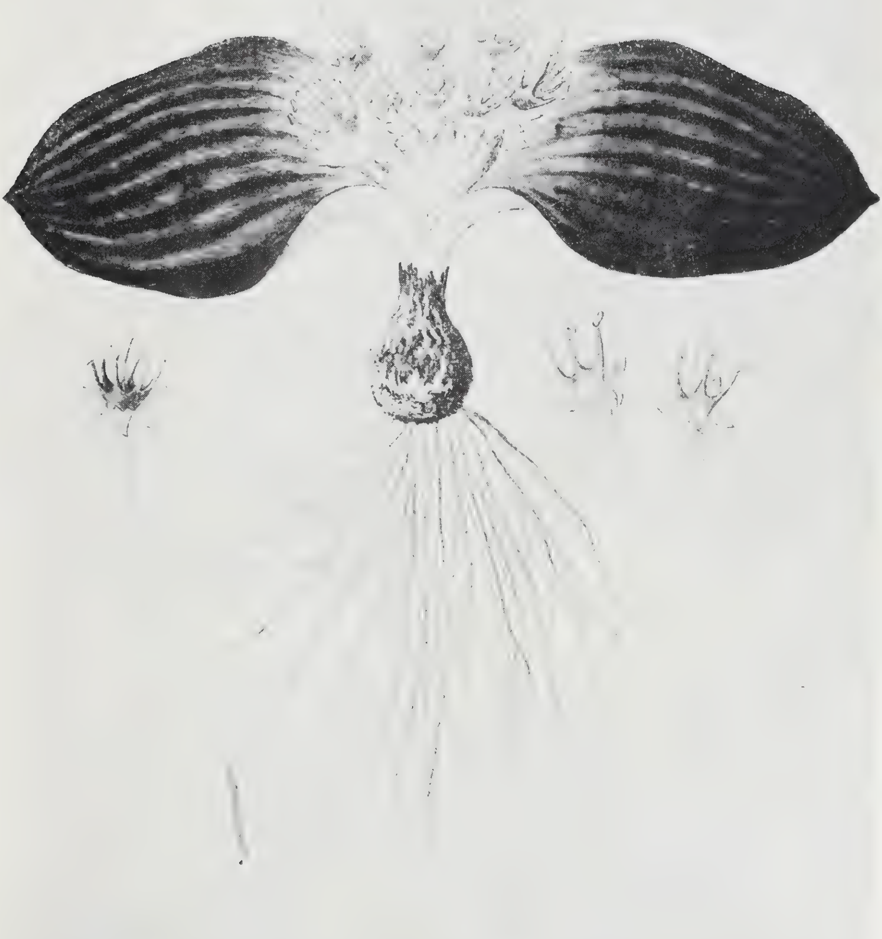
Maſsonia Latifolia.

Plate X. *Massonia ?latifolia*, L. f.
From a drawing by Col. R. J. Gordon. By permission of the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.

confirmation of this. The two drawings show a marked difference in draughtsmanship.

We have now reached the end of our account of the life and work of the gardener-botanist FRANCIS MASSON, with special reference to his achievements as a collector at the Cape. Both botanical science in South Africa and horticulture in Europe have greatly benefited by his painstaking work as a botanist and as a collector. The foregoing clearly shows the importance of MASSON's contribution to the knowledge of South African botany, and we can but be grateful for the volume he left to posterity, *Stapeliae Novae*, a work of great merit and value, both for the accurate, true-to-life drawings, from which the plates were made, and the detailed descriptions of the plants figured, which show him as a keen observer. This publication stands out as the very first volume wholly devoted in words and pictures to this highly interesting group of succulent plants.

Regarding his introduction of Cape plants into cultivation in England, we cannot do better than quote what THUNBERG writes about this in the author's preface of his *Flora Capensis*[166]. Having stated that MASSON was his fellow-traveller on his journeys into the interior of Africa towards the east and the north, THUNBERG says: " . . . he obtained in particular seeds of plants, bulbs, and succulent stems, for despatch to England. With these he has enriched in a wonderful manner, most laudably, the *Kew* Garden. Afterwards he visited the Cape of good hope again, and undertook lengthy journeys [on which] he discovered not a few new things [plants]". THUNBERG could not have been more appreciative indeed. Judging from his letters to THUNBERG and the account of his journeys, MASSON could get along well with the brilliant Swedish botanist, the father of South African botany, and greatly respected him.

ADDENDA.

MASSON'S CORRESPONDENCE.

Some time after we had completed the first parts of our paper we accidentally came to know about two MASSON letters in the custody of the Library of the Royal Academy of Science in Stockholm. The former

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[166] C. P. THUNBERG, *Flora Capensis*, ed. Schultes (1823). In the Praefatio Auctoris, under the heading *Botanici et Collectores, qui ipsi hocce promontorium salutarunt* (transl.: Botanists and Collectors who themselves have visited this cape), THUNBERG gives some notes on MASSON's work at the Cape. The original Latin text of this quotation reads as follows (p. X): " . . . plantarum praecipue semina, bulbos et succulentos caules, in Angliam mittendos, attulit, eisque mirum in modum, Hortum *kewensem* laudabiliter ditavit. Postea Caput bonae spei iterum visit, longinqua instituit itinera et nova non pauca detexit".

Librarian, Dr. ARNE HOLMBERG, kindly drew our attention to these letters.

The first letter was written by MASSON from London (after his first visit to the Cape) to the outstanding Swedish botanist P. J. BERGIUS[167], on December 27, 1775, the second one, dated June 12, 1776, and written in French, is BERGIUS' answer to that. Both letters are transcripts. Thanks to photographic copies which we were presented with, they can be reproduced here in full.

1. MASSON TO BERGIUS.

Sir Ex orig.

I hope your generosity will pardon the freedom I have taken in adressing myself to you, with whom I have not the honour to be a-quainted; But well knowing your great Merit in Botany and Natural history I have taken this favourable oportunity of makeing myself known: I had the honour to be sent by his Brittanic Majesty on an Expedition to the Cape of good Hope, to collect Plants for his Botanic Garden at Kew, where I had the honour of an intimat aquaintance with our worthy friend Dr. Thunberg, where we contracted a mutual friendship and made several long journies into the interior parts of Africa. At his departure he delivered to me some parcels of dried plants for you, which I delivered to Mr. Lindegren, to be send to Sweden, which I hope you have received. Since my arrival upon examining my Cape Plants I think I have found the *Bergia capensis*[168], and thinking it might be still a scarce Plant or perhaps not yet fallen into your hands, I have sent you a Specimen thereof, and should be glad to know your oppinion of it, or if I am right in my determination. I expect soon to go upon another expedition, to another part of the world[169], and if I am fortunat to discover any thing new I should be happy to have the honour of communicating it to you. I should be glad to know if you have heard latly from Mr. Thunberg, if you writ him soon, let my beg my sincere respects to him, which will greatly oblige Your most obedient,

humble Servant,

London Dec^{r} 27. 1775. Fran^{s} Masson.

direct to M^{r} Francis Masson at M^{r} James Lee's Nursery-man at Hammersmith London.

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[167] PETER JONAS BERGIUS (1730–1790), a doctor of medicine and professor of natural history at Stockholm, was one of THUNBERG's best friends and helpers at home. He is the author of a modest little book on Cape plants, which may be considered as the first flora of the Cape: *Plantae Capenses* (Stockholm, 1767). See also this Journal, Vol. V, July, 1939, pp. 92–3 (with portrait), and M. KARSTEN, *The Old Company's Garden at the Cape* (1951), pp. 137–40 (with reproduction of title page of *Plantae Capenses*).

[168] *Bergia capensis*, L. is the type species of the gen. *Bergia*, L., belonging to the Elatinaceae or Water-wort family. The Bergias are prostrate, rarely erect, herbs or undershrubs, often pubescent. The flowers are axillary, sessile or pedicilled, solitary or in fascicled cymes (PHILLIPS). Apart from *B. capensis*, there are another two species indigenous to S. Africa.

[169] Madeira, the Canaries, the Azores, the West Indian Islands!

2. BERGIUS TO MASSON (transl.).

Sir, Ex orig.

Never have I had a more pleasant surprise than when I received your letter, Sir, with a specimen of Bergia, a plant so rare that my friend Thunberg had not been able to find it during the whole time that he was living at the Cape of Good Hope. Never was there a more appropriate compliment. You can well imagine with what diligence I have tried to obtain a plant which bears my name in order to place it in my herbarium, and consequently how great an obligation I owe you for a gift so precious to me. Yes, Sir, I am filled with the greatest possible appreciation and wish nothing more fervently than to have favourable opportunities to render every imaginable service to a man who has so clearly shown his fine and generous character. In return I shall be glad to search for any natural history objects which may be found in these parts, in which you may be interested, and you have only to ask as much as you please. Oh, how happy I should think myself if I could thereby earn the continuation of your friendship, so that in future, when you might be in a position to contribute even more fully to my herbarium, as you no doubt already are, you would be kind enough to remember me and my wishes, which are only too keen in respect of rare and new plants, as in fact is quite natural for every botanist. In fact, Sir, you have caused me very great pleasure by the generous promise you have given to be good enough to send me new plants which you may come across in the botanical expedition which you are about to undertake. May the Almighty prosper you in all your ways, Sir, and bring you back safe and sound, enriched by many interesting discoveries. But before I conclude, I should like to know your London address, so that I can write to you sometimes and at the same time have news of you during the course of your journey, and so that anything which I may be in a position to send you from here may be able to reach you safely. I have a small collection of Lapland plants which I could send you to begin with. We have had no news of our friend Thunberg since he left the Cape, but we have every hope that he is still alive and well. I have had the opportunity to secure some practical monetary assistance for him from our Academy, which he will doubtless need. This faithful friend, while at the Cape, regaled me from time to time with a number of very rare plants, among which was a Massonia, but as it was eaten by worms en route I should very much like to have another and more complete specimen. May I beg you, Sir, to be good enough to gratify my wish? To return to the rare plant which you have just sent me, it is in truth a genuine Bergia, agreeing with the Bergia of Linnaeus by its 10 stamens and 5 pistils, and Mr. Linné to whom I had first the opportunity of showing it, did not hesitate to agree, but he at once exclaimed that it was a new species of this genus, and for that reason he asked me for one of the two pieces which you had sent me so that he could describe it in his new Mantissa, and this I could not refuse him. Thus, Sir, you have the credit of having enriched this genus with a second species; but as for the first, namely Bergia capensis, this has not yet reached me. Perhaps you could also find this among your excellent collection of Cape plants, and perhaps even in duplicate, so that you might have the means of charming me with it! I have the honour to be, with profound esteem, Sir,

Your very humble and obedient servant
P. J. Bergius.[170]

Stockholm
12 June 1776.

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[170] Orig. French text: "Monsieur, Jamais surprise ne m'a été plus agréable, que celle qui m'arrivoit en recevant vôtre lettre, Monsieur, avec un exemplaire de Bergia, plante si rare, que mon ami Thunberg n'avoit pas été capable de la trouver durant tout le tems qu'il sejournoit au Cap de bonne Esperance. Jamais galanterie ne fut-elle mieux placée. Vous jugerés bien, avec quel empressement j'ai dû rechercher une plante qui porte mon nom, pour pouvoir l'inserer dans mon herbaire, & après cela au quel point je vous aie de l'obligation d'un don, qui me fut si précieux. Oui, Monsieur, j'en suis pénétré de la plus vive reconnoissance du monde, & je ne souhaite rien plus ardemment, que d'avoir des occasions favorables de rendre tous les services imaginables à un homme, qui a si bien signalé son caractere noble & bienfaisant. Effectivement je m'offre à rechercher pour vous de toutes les choses naturelles qui se pourront trouver dans ces cantons, supposé que vous en seriés curieux, & vous n'avés qu'à en demander autant qu'il vous plaira. O que je m'estimerois heureux, si avec cela je pouvois meriter la continuation de vôtre amitié, de sorte que desormais, lorsque vous seriés en état de fournir à mon herbaire un accroissement bien plus ample encore, comme vous l'êtes sans doute deja, vous voulussiés bien vous souvenir de ma personne & de mes desirs, qui ne sont que trop ardens par raport aux plantes rares & nouvelles, come en effet cela est bien naturel à tous les botanistes. Actuellement, Monsieur, vous m'avés fait une joie extreme par la promesse genereuse que vous m'avés donnée de vouloir bien me communiquer des plantes nouvelles, qui se pourront présenter dans l'expedition botanique, où vous allés vous engager de nouveau. Que le Tout-puissant fasse prosperer toutes vos vuës, Monsieur, & que vous puissiés revenir sain & sauf, enrichi de nombre de decouvertes interessantes. Mais avant que de partir, je vous demanderai vôtre adresse à Londre, afin que je puisse vous écrire quelquefois, & même avoir de vos nouvelles pendant le cours de vôtre voyage, & que les choses, que je serois en état de vous envoyer d'ici, vous puissent parvenir sûrement. J'ai une petite collection de plantes Lapponiques, que je pourrois d'abord vous envoïer. Nôtre ami Thunberg ne nous a pas donné de ses nouvelles depuis qu'il quittoit le Cap, mais nous avons pourtant lieu d'espérer qu'il vivra encore & qu'il se trouvera bien. J'ai eu l'occasion de lui procurer quelque assistence réelle de nôtre Academy avec de l'argent, dont il aura sans doute besoin. Cet ami fidel, étant au Cap, me regala de tems en tems de nombre de plantes très rares, & entre autres aussi d'une Massonia, mais comme elle avoit été rongée sur le chemin des vers, je souhaiterois fort d'en avoir un autre exemplaire, qui fut plus accompli. Ose-je vous prier, Monsieur, de m'en vouloir bien gratifier? Pour revenir à la plante rare que vous venés de m'envoyer, elle est à la verité une vraie Bergia, repondante à Bergia Linnaei par ses 10 étamines & ses 5 pistilles, & Mr. Linné, à qui j'avois d'abord occasion de la montrer, ne laissa pas d'en convenir, mais il s'écria aussi-tôt que c'étoit une nouvelle espece de ce genre, & pour cela il me demanda l'un des deux exemplaires que vous m'aviés envoyés, pour la pouvoir decrire & inserer dans sa nouvelle Mantisse, ce que je nu pus pas lui refuser. Vous avés donc,

Your letter has only reached me recently and it has not been possible to answer it sooner.

As for the dried plants which you have entrusted to Mr. Lindegren, for delivery to me, I have not yet received them.

The publication of Part III of our paper in the October, 1959 issue of this Journal, in which several letters MASSON wrote to BANKS are cited, induced the Librarian of the Sutro Branch of the California State Library, Mr. RICHARD H. DILLON, to provide us with the following interesting information about the history of the BANKS letters and other items in the custody of that library.

The BANKS papers came to the California State Library with the entire Sutro Library (some 100,000 books), the gift to the State of California by the heirs of pioneer bibliophile ADOLPH SUTRO, Mayor of San Francisco. Apparently Mr. SUTRO or one of his agents bought the 10,000 BANKS Manuscripts at auction in England (probably at SOTHEBY'S) in the 1880's.

Mr. DILLON further writes that the manuscripts are not all catalogued, by any means, and that more African material might turn up in the future. Poor housing and an overworked staff have kept them from completing the cataloguing of this fine collection, but should they move to the adequate housing promised them, they will find time to round out this project.

Will the lost originals of MASSON'S letters to BANKS of January 21, and March 8, 1786, sent from the Cape, turn up after all? Judging from the above information, the possibility should not be ruled out altogether. However, at about the same time we had a letter from Miss EDWARDS of the British Museum (Nat. Hist.), dealing with another set of MASSON letters, and this is what she writes:—

"The originals of 61 letters from Francis Masson to Banks between 1776 and 1800 are in the Mitchell Library, Sydney. Of these 39 are dated from Cape of Good Hope, but the two you specify—those of 21 Jan. and

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Monsieur, le merite d'avoir enrichi ce genre d'une seconde espece; mais pour la premiere, savoir Bergia capensis, elle ne m'est pas encore parvenuë. Puissiés vous la trouver aussi parmi vôtre excellente collection des plantes du Cap, & cela in duplo, afin que vous eussiés moïen de m'en regaler! J'ai l'honneur d'être avec l'estime la plus parfaite, Monsieur, Vôtre très humble & très obëissant serviteur

P. J. Bergius.

de Stockholm
le 12. Juin 1776.

Vôtre lettre ne m'étant parvenuë que nouvellement, il ne m'a pas été possible d'y repondre plus-tôt.

Pour les plantes seches, que vous avés confiées à Mr. Lindegren pour être transmiser à moi, je ne les ai pas encore reçuës.

8 Mar. 1786, are not among them. Probably these two are strays from Masson's file and so got into the general correspondence copied in D.T.C. If so, there is little hope of tracing the originals as most, if not all, the general letter books were bought by dealers who broke them up to get the letters valuable as autographs and destroyed most of the rest."

By D.T.C. is meant DAWSON TURNER Collection (consisting of transcripts of the original letters; see this Journal, Vol. XXV, Oct., 1959, p. 283, footnote 88).

Those letters from the Cape may provide interesting additional information *re* MASSON's activities during the period of his second sojourn (1786–95) in the country.

MASSON'S PLANTS.

Since part IV of this paper, dealing with the whereabouts of MASSON's plants, was published, we received a letter from Prof. Dr. CHARLES BAEHNI, Director of the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques at Geneva, where the DELESSERT Herbarium is housed. Prof. BAEHNI writes that the Herbarium referred to has been part of this institution for about 110 years, and that full particulars about it are given in LESÈQUE, *Musée Botanique de Benjamin Delessert*, published in 1845.

He further informs us that they have complete lists of the Candollean plants between 1794 and 1821, but that MASSON's name does not appear in them. So there is no doubt that the DELESSERT Herbarium does not include any MASSON specimens. However, there is a possibility that some of his plants have found their way into the BARBEY-BOISSIER Herbarium, but they have no records of it.

Our readers will be interested to learn that the plant of *Encephalartos longifolius*, Lehm. ("E. caffer") which MASSON brought to Kew from the Cape in 1775 (see Part IV of MASSON, this Journal, Jan., 1960, p. 13) still survives. Having read our reference to this introduction of MASSON's, Dr. C. E. HUBBARD, Deputy Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, writes that this reminded him that in 1959 on the occasion of the Bicentenary of Kew Gardens, when he delved into the history of Kew and particularly into J. SMITH's "Records" (1888), he noted his remarks about the above plant being one foot high in 1822, and 3 feet in 1848. About 60 years later, W. J. BEAN in his book *The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew* (1908), pp. 133–4, writes, as quoted by Dr. HUBBARD, that "even now its stem is but eight feet high". They still have what is assumed to be the same plant growing in a large tub in the Palm House, now with the stem inclined and about 11 feet long.

CORRIGENDA.

Part III, MASSON'S JOURNEYS, this Journal, Vol. XXV, July, 1959, p. 184, footnote 74. LINNAEUS *filius* has been erroneously stated as the authority of *Aloe dichotoma*, the Kokerboom. This should be MASSON. See REYNOLDS, *Aloes of South Africa* (1950), p. 488.

Part IV, MASSON'S PLANTS, this Journal, Vol. XXVI, Jan., 1960, p. 12. We have been wrongly informed about the whereabouts of the DELESSERT Herbarium. It is not at Zürich, as stated, but it is housed at the Conservatoire et Jardin Botaniques at Geneva.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

We are greatly indebted to the following people for their generous assistance:

Miss PHYLLIS I. EDWARDS, Librarian, Botany Department, British Museum (Natural History), London, who has taken much trouble in answering our many queries, in particular regarding the Masson drawings; Miss MARY D. GUNN, Librarian, Division of Botany, Pretoria; Prof. R. H. COMPTON, Mbabane, Swaziland, for his translation from the French of Bergius' letter to Masson, and for going through the MS. of the final part of our paper; Miss W. F. BARKER, Compton Herbarium, Kirstenbosch, Newlands, C.P.; Mr. J. H. ESTERHUYSE, Senior Archivist, Government Archives, Cape Town; Dr. VERNON S. FORBES, Department of Geography, Rhodes University, Grahamstown; Mr. TH. O'GRADY, General Secretary, Linnean Society of London; Dr. WILHELM ODELBERG, Librarian, Kungl. Vetenskapsakademiens Bibliotek (Library of the Royal Academy of Science), Stockholm, for the free gift, on behalf of the Library, of excellent photographs of two Masson letters; Mr. RICHARD H. DILLON, Librarian, Sutro Branch, California State Library, San Francisco.

Further we want to tender our best thanks to Mr. ANTHONY V. HALL, Bolus Herbarium, University of Cape Town; Dr. GRAHAM BOTHA, formerly Union Chief Archivist, Newlands, C.P.; Mr. J. E. DANDY, Keeper of Botany, British Museum (Natural History); Dr. C. E. HUBBARD, Deputy Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Mr. S. M. WALTERS, Curator of the Herbarium, Botany School, University of Cambridge; Mr. C. EARLE SMITH, Jr., Assistant Curator of Botany, Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, U.S.A.; Mrs. M. J. VAN STEENIS-KRUSEMAN, Oegstgeest, Holland, for various information received from them.

We are grateful to Dr. R. Allan Dyer, Chief, Division of Botany, Pretoria, for the loan of a photograph of the original of Gordon's only *Massonia* drawing, reproduced with this paper; to the Director of the Photographic Department, Jagger Library, University of Cape Town, for the free gift of two prints of the photostat of a small manuscript, reproduced with this paper; to the Photographic Department of the Rijksmuseum at Amsterdam, for the free gift of a complete set of photographs of Gordon's Stapelieae drawings, which were most useful; and to Dr. F. G. van der Riet, Librarian, Rhodes University, Grahamstown, who kindly did some translating from the Latin.

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